

Remarks

In the Restriction action dated 18 May 2006, a restriction was raised between claim Groups I-VII. In response, applicants elected group I (claims 1 and 15) with traverse. Claims 2-14 and 16-17 are herein canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to renewal in a subsequently filed divisional application. Accordingly, claims 1 and 15 are pending.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction on the grounds that claim 2 should be included in group I as it will not require a separate search since claim 2 is drawn to the protein encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1. Accordingly, applicants request that claim 2 be included in elected group I.

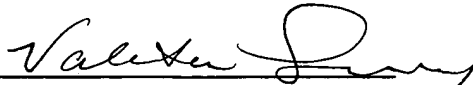
Conclusion

It is believed that this document is fully responsive to the Election/Restriction Requirement dated 18 May 2006. It is believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully urged.

Fees

Applicants contend that no fee is necessary in connection with the filing of this response. However, if any fee is deemed to be necessary, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 18-0650.

Respectfully submitted,


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